Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-12 EUR-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 IO-14 L-03 NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02 PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-15 /158 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 534

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 7210

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD: 764TH PLENARY SESSION, AUGUST 23, 1977

1. SUMMARY: IN AUGUST 23 CCD PLENARY, CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW) AND PROPOSED BAN ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW) WERE DISCUSSED IN STATEMENTS OF SWEDISH AND POLISH REPS. REPS OF FRG, ITALY, US, UK, HUNGARY, AND NIGERIA SPOKE ON THE PROPOSAL TO CREATE AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP TO DRAFT A COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATING PROGRAM (CNP) OF ARMS CONTROL MEASURES. END SUMMARY UNCLASSIFIED

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2. SWEDISH REP (HAMILTON), ADDRESSING THE SCOPE OF A CW BAN, INDICATED APPRECIATION FOR US EXPRESSION OF VIEWS THAT INCAPACITANTS SHOULD BE INCLUDED, BUT ASKED FOR FURTHER ELABORATIONS ON THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN INCAPACITANTS AND RIOT CONTROL AGENTS (RCAS). RATHER THAN AN UPPER TIME LIMIT FOR THE PERSISTENCE OF THE EFFECTS OF RCAS, SWEDISH

REP RECOMMENDED LISTING EXPLICIT EXEMPTIONS FOR LEGITIMATE USES OF RCAS IN A PROTOCOL TO THE EVENTUAL CW CONVENTION. FURTHER, SWEDISH REP SAID THAT SWEDEN WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE USE OF HERBICIDES COVERED IN THE CW BAN, AND THAT THEY COULD PROBABLY BE TREATED IN THE SAME WAY AS RCA'S.

- 3. SWEDISH REP STATED THAT THE CONCEPT OF A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE'S ROLE IN CW VERIFICATION SEEMS TO BE GAINING SUPPORT, BUT THAT ITS TASKS AND PROCEDURES MAY NOT BE EXACTLY THE SAME AS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION (ENMOD) CONVENTION OR FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB) TREATY, BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE SCOPE AND VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS OF A CW BAN.
- 4. DECLARING THAT THE ACQUISITION OF CW AGENTS, MUNITIONS, AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS IS NOT THE ONLY DECISIVE FACTOR FOR BUILDING AN OFFENSIVE CW CAPABILITY, SWEDISH REP RECOMMENDED BANNING OTHER OFFENSIVE RELATED PREPARATIONS AS WELL, INCLUDING TRAINING, PLANNING, AND ORGANIZATIONAL PREPARATIONS. MONITORING THE FACT THAT SUCH ACTIVITIES DID NOT OCCUR, SWEDISH REP STATED, WOULD SHOW THAT A STATE PARTY TO A CW CONVENTION WAS NOT RETAINING OR PREPARING TO ACQUIRE AN OFFENSIVE CW CAPABILITY.
- 5. ON THE SOVIET PROPOSAL TO BAN NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW), SWEDISH REP INDICATED THAT THE RECENT CCD UNCLASSIFIED

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INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS WERE USEFUL, BUT STATED THAT SWEDEN MAINTAINS THE VIEW THAT IT IS UNFORTUNATELY NOT POSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE AN OVERALL BAN ON DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MDW ONCE AND FOR ALL. INSTEAD, SWEDISH REP SUPPORTED UK PROPOSAL FOR A UNGA RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MDW AND ASKING THE CCD TO KEEP THE MATTER UNDER REVIEW.

- 6. POLISH REP (WYZNER) STATED THAT THE POLISH DEL IS GRATIFIED TO NOTE A DISTINCT IF SLOW EVOLUTION TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE CW BAN. IN THIS CONNECTION, POLISH REP ADVOCATED INCLUDING A BAN ON IRTITANTS.
- 7. WELCOMING A NEW ROUND OF US-SOVIET TALKS ON CW, POLISH REP DECLARED HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE ADEQUACY OF NATIONAL MEANS OF CONTROL FOR VERIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH A CW BAN, SUPPLEMENTED BY CONTROL PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH CW STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION, AS SUGGESTED IN THE SOVIET MEMORANDUM CIRCULATED AT THE TIME OF THE 31ST UNGA. INSTEAD OF MOTHBALLING CW MANFACTURING PLANTS, POLISH REP ADVOCATED DISMANTLING THEM OR CONVERTING THEM TO PEACEFUL CIVILIAN USES.

8. ON THE SOVIEW PROPOSAL TO BAN NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW), POLISH REP CHARACTERIZED THE RECENT SERIES OF CCD INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS AS USEFUL AND INDICATED GRATIFICATION AT THE DISPLAY OF FLEXIBILITY SHOWN IN THE REVISED SOVIET DRAFT TREATY. ON THE 1948

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DEFINITION OF MDW, POLISH REP SAID THAT THIS COULD NOT CREATE A BINDING TREATY OBLIGATION TO PROHIBIT THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURE OF SUCH WEAPONS, WHICH HE SAID IS "THE NEXT AND ONLY LOGICAL STEP." CONCLUDING, POLISH REP REMARKED THAT "IT WAS SOMEHOW DISAPPOINTING TO LISTEN TO SOME EXPERTS AND THEIR DELEGATIONS DISMISSING OUT OF HAND AS IRRELEVANT CERTAIN AREAS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WHERE THERE IS GOOD REASON TO FEAR POTENTIAL NEW EEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, SUCH AS THE USE OF ACOUSTIC OR ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES TO AFFECT HUMAN TARGETS."

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9. FRG REP (SCHLAICH), REFERRING TO NIGERIAN IDEA OF A WORKING GROUP TO DRAFT A COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATING PROGRAM (CNP) OF ARMS CONTROL MEASURES, PROPOSED CONSENSUS AGREEMENT ON THE PRINCIPLE OF ESTABLISHING SUCH A WORKING GROUP, APPLYING THE PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES CONTAINED IN CCD'S DECISION OF APRIL 21 (CCD/532). STATING THAT "PERHAPS IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO COMPLETE ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS IMPLIED IN CCD DOCUMENT 532 FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GROUP," FRG REP RECOMMENDED THAT THE CCD "RECORD A CONSENSUS THAT SUCH A WORKING GROUP, WHICH WE WOULD SEE AS A WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE, SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR NEXT SESSION."

10. INDICATING HIS CONVICTION THAT NEITHER THE WORKING GROUP'S DISCUSSION NOR ITS OUTCOME WILL BE IN CONFLICT WITH THE WORK OF THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT (SSOD) AND ITS PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, FRG REP SAID THAT IF THE CNP WORKING GROUP COULD CONCLUDE ITS TASK AS RECOMMENDED BY NIGERIA, THEN THE CNP MIGHT BE PRESENTED TO THE SSOD. IN TURN, THE FRG REP STATED, THE SSOD "MIGHT THEN TAKE NOTE OF IT, REFER TO IT IN ITS FINAL DECLARATION, AND EVEN INCLUDE PARTS OF IT IN ITS PROGRAM OF ACTION."

11. REPS OF ITALY (DI BERNARDO), US (FISHER), AND UK (ASHE) EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR FRG PROPOSAL.

12. HUNGARIAN REP (DOMOKOS) STATED THAT HUNGARY DOES NOT SHARE THE VIEW THAT PREPARING A DETAILED CNP CONSTITUTES ONE OF THE HIGH-PRIORITY TASKS OF THE CCD. A CNP, HUNGARIAN REP SAID, MIGHT PROVIDE SOME IDEAS AS TO FURTHER AREAS OF ARMS CONTROL WHICH COULD BE PURSUED, BUT WOULD NOT FACILITATE PRGRESS IN SPECIFIC DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS. UNCLASSIFIED

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13. IF A CNP WORKING GROUP WERE CREATED, HUNGARIAN REP INDICATED, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH ITS MANDATE VERY EARLY, BASED ON CCD/532. SUCH A MANDATE WOULD HAVE TO SPECIFY THE BASIC DOCUMENT OR DOCUMENTS, HUNGARIAN REP DECLARED, WHICH WOULD SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR THE WORKING GROUP'S DELIBERATIONS. IN THIS REGARD, HUNGARIAN REP REMARKED THAT MANY DELEGATIONS CONSIDER THE SOVIET MEMORANDUM

CIRCULATED AT THE TIME OF THE 31ST UNGA TO BE AN ADEQUATE BASIS FOR A CNP.

14. BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF TIME AND THE LACK OF PRIOR CONSULTATIONS, HUNGARIAN REP RECOMMENDED AGAINST TAKING A DEFINITE DECISION TO ESTABLISH A CNP WORKING GROUP, BUT THAT A DECISION COULD BE TAKEN TO CONSIDER THIS QUESTION AT THE BEGINNING OF CCD'S SPRING 1978 SESSION, INCLUDING IT IN THE OVERALL DISCUSSIONS OF CCD'S PROGRAM OF WORK.

15. NIGERIAN REP (FALASE) STATED THAT IF THERE WERE A CONSENSUS IN SUPPORT OF THE FRG PROPOSAL, NIGERIA WOULD NOT OBJECT, BECAUSE THE CREATION OF A CNP WORKING GROUP IS IN PRINCIPLE WHAT NIGERIA HAS BEEN ADVOCATING. HOWEVER, NIGERIAN REP INDICATED, NIGERIA WOULD GREATLY PREFER THAT CCD USE THE TIME REMAINING IN THE SUMMER SESSION (SCHEDULED TO END ON AUGUST 30) TO DEVELOP THE WORKING GROUP'S DETAILED MANDATE, SO THAT THE WORKING GROUP COULD START ITS SUBSTANTIVE WORK AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF THE SPRING SESSION.

16. CHAIRMAN-OF-THE-DAY (ARIAS-SCHREIBER, PERU) SUGGESTED HOLDING THE FRG PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT PLENARY MEETING, PERMITTING PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO REACH A CONSENSUS. THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, IT WAS SO DECIDED.

17. THE NEXT PLENARY MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 25.VANDEN HEUVEL UNCLASSIFIED

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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